CLAIMS

1. A cosmetic method for reducing or preventing body malodour by topically applying to human skin a composition comprising an active agent capable of inactivating body malodour-causing micro-organisms comprising corynebacteria, wherein the agent is a perfume component which is capable of inactivating the corynebacteria capable of catabolising fatty acids.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the composition is a perfume composition comprising at least 30% by weight of one or more of the perfume components capable of inactivating the corynebacteria capable of catabolising fatty acids.

3. A method according to either one of claims 1 and 2 wherein the perfume component comprises at least one of the following materials (Z)-3,4,5,6,6-pentamethylhept-3-en-2-one, mixtures of diethyl- and dimethyl-cyclohex-2-en-1-one, citronellol, 2-methyl-3-(4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl)propanal, (2-(methyloxy)-4-propyl-1-benzenol), diphenylmethane, tetrahydrolinalol, 4-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropanal, α-ionone, β-ionone, tricyclo[5.2.1.0,2,6]dec-4-en-8-yl ethanoate, 4-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, 3-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)-cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, methyl iso-eugenol, 2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-methyl-2-(2-methylprop-1-enyl)tetrahydropyran.

4. A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein an Odour Reduction Value of at least 10% is obtained.

5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the perfume component inactivates the corynebacteria capable of catabolising fatty acids.

6. The use of a perfume component to inactivate the corynebacteria capable of catabolising fatty acids.

7. The use of a perfume composition, comprising at least 30% by weight of one or more perfume components capable of inactivating the corynebacteria capable of catabolising fatty acids, to reduce body malodour.

8. The use of a deodorant product, comprising a perfume component, to reduce body malodour by inactivating the corynebacteria capable of catabolising fatty acids.

9. A perfume composition comprising at least 30% by weight of one or more of the perfume components listed in claim 3.

10. A deodorant product comprising a perfume composition defined in claim 9.

11. A method of producing a perfume composition which comprises (i) evaluating perfume components on the ability to inhibit fatty acid metabolism in corynebacteria, (ii) selecting perfume components on the ability to sub-lethally inhibit fatty acid metabolism in corynebacteria, and (iii) mixing together two or more of said selected perfume components, optionally with other perfume components.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the selected perfume components are one or more of the perfume components listed in claim 3.

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13. A perfume composition comprising at least 30% by weight of one or more of the following perfume components;
(Z)-3,4,5,6,6-pentamethylhept-3-en-2-one, mixtures of diethyl- and dimethyl- cyclohex-2-en-1-one, 2-methyl-3-(4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl)propanal, (2-(methyloxy)-4-propyl-1-benzenol), diphenylmethane, tetrahydrolinalol, 4-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropanal, α-ionone, β-ionone, tricyclo[5.2.1.0,2,6]dec-4-en-8-yl ethanoate, 4-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, 3-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)-cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, methyl iso-eugenol, 2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-methyl-2-(2-methylprop-1-enyl)tetrahydropyran.

14. A perfume composition comprising at least 60% by weight of one or more of the following perfume components;
(Z)-3,4,5,6,6-pentamethylhept-3-en-2-one, mixtures of diethyl- and dimethyl- cyclohex-2-en-1-one, citronellol, 2-methyl-3-(4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl)propanal, (2-(methyloxy)-4-propyl-1-benzenol), diphenylmethane, tetrahydrolinalol, 4-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropanal, α-ionone, β-ionone, tricyclo[5.2.1.0,2,6]dec-4-en-8-yl ethanoate, 4-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, 3-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)-cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, methyl iso-eugenol, 2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-methyl-2-(2-methylprop-1-enyl)tetrahydropyran.

15. A perfume composition comprising at least 30% by weight of at least 5 of the following perfume components;
(Z)-3,4,5,6,6-pentamethylhept-3-en-2-one, mixtures of diethyl- and dimethyl- cyclohex-2-en-1-one, citronellol, 2-methyl-3-(4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl)propanal, (2-(methyloxy)-4-propyl-1-benzenol), diphenylmethane, tetrahydrolinalol, 4-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(4-methyl-3-pentenyl)cyclohex-3-ene-1-carbaldehyde, 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropanal, α-ionone, β-ionone, tricyclo[5.2.1.0,2,6]dec-4-en-8-yl ethanoate, 4-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, 3-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)-cyclohex-3-enecarbaldehyde, methyl iso-eugenol, 2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexyl ethanoate, 4-methyl-2-(2-methylprop-1-enyl)tetrahydropyran.

AMENDED SHEET